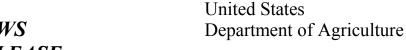


NEWS RELEASE





Forest Service Salmon - Challis National Forest 1206 South Challis Salmon, Idaho 83467

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June 15, 2009

Meadow Lake Road Temporarily Closed For Surfacing

A portion of Meadow Lake Road will be closed between June 17 and June 26 while the road is being surfaced with gravel. A contract was let to Granite Excavation, Inc. to provide a gravel surface on the Forest Service portion of the road from the historical site of Gilmore to the Meadow Lake Campground.

The work will include the use of many large hauling vehicles, a grader and a compaction roller. "Due to the narrow nature of the road, it will be necessary to close the road to public traffic while the large machinery is operating on the road.," said Jeff Parker, project coordinator. Gravel will be hauled throughout most of the closure period to be dumped and spread out. Final surface finishing and compaction will take place when all of the gravel is in place. Work will not take place on the weekend, however the road above Gilmore will be closed to vehicles other than ATVs until the final surface is compacted.

In preparation for the work, snow has been plowed off the road up to the lake. Drifts up to five feet thick were encountered and snow still occupies much of the campground. Jeff Slagg, Leadore Ranger District Recreational Forester, said that the lake is still frozen over. If the weather cooperates, work will be completed on schedule and the campground may be opened by Fourth of July weekend.